ABLE TOGETHER

OCT. 1994
VOL. 1 NO. 1

a quarterly newsletter serving abled and disabled gay and bisexual men

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YOU ARE VERY, VERY WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE NEW ABLE-TOGETHER NEWSLETTER!

ABLE TOGETHER

You the membership *are* ABLE-TOGETHER. And you – I should say, we – are a pretty impressive bunch. Amongst the more than sixty personal contact ads in this issue lies a wealth of heart, excitement and talent spread across (so far) three continents. We are healers, businessmen, students, physical therapists, writers, office workers, community workers, athletes, rehabilitative workers, musicians, physicians, retirees, psychotherapists, persons on SSDI, photographers, country boys and city boys; all ranging in age from 22 to 72 years old and variously of African, Asian and European ethnicities. And that's just the little we presently know about each other!

And we are, each of us, in some way different. Whatever form the difference takes, this is the glue that binds our group: ABLE-TOGETHER is for bisexual and gay men who are in some way, less or more obviously, different from the fantasy-projection of society that is called "normality". Our differences come in many guises, sizes, shapes and degrees, and with a kaleidoscope of different feelings attached; and lest we not forget, one form of feeling-difference is to be attracted to difference: about half of us could categorize ourselves thus.

Difference is feared and stigmatized as much in bisexual/gay society as in society at large, of which the gay and bisexual communities are a fairly representative cross-section. In response to the stigma and the fear we the different might at times try to pass as not-different or less-different. At times some of us succeed greatly; but the difference is still there, waiting for response. Now he's smiling - but will he still be smiling when he finds out about it?

EDITORIAL

How does it feel to have a different or differently-responding body - and a not-different yearning for intimacy, a not-different fantasy of emotional and sexual fulfillment? How does it feel to grow up expecting not to be attractive to someone? Can you let it in when someone is attracted to you? Will you, like one friend, give yourself to the first such person, whether or not he is right for you?

What do you do if your difference is wholly or partially hidden from view? In the dark of the club, can the guy cruising you tell that your arm is prosthetic? How is he to find out? After ten years of this, one friend quit asking himself this question - and quit wearing the arm. This friend is pretty cool now about his difference and about the fact that some people turn on to it.

And what if your difference precludes your going to bars and clubs? And what of the difference of being turned on to difference. Can you be honest? Can you risk hearing, "Ewww, but he's deformed!" from your not-differently-aware friends? How is it not to tell your special friend of one of the things you specially like about him, for fear he will be hurt, or rejecting of you?

ABLE-TOGETHER attempts to respect differences of all kinds without judging. We all have so much to discover and to learn both about each other and about ourselves. We can help ourselves and each other along our paths by sharing our feelings and experiences honestly and fearlessly with each other, through private communication or by publication in these pages. And may we be TOGETHER ABLE to blow open this last, highly significant closet door!

WHERE'S MY PENIS?

by Brian Tsai

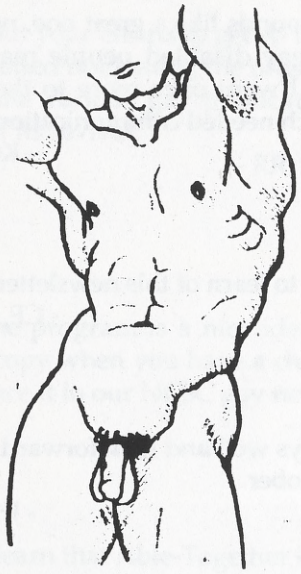
In the trauma center they wanted a urine specimen. They said if I couldn't give them one they'd have to insert a Foley catheter - not a comfortable prospect. But when I put my hand on my penis, my fingers felt a penis but my penis did not feel any fingers. At least I didn't have to cringe when they put the Foley in, since I couldn't feel that either. And at this point, I had bigger things to worry about than my penis.

Towards the end of my three-month hospitalization, when I was getting stronger, the loss of my sexuality came more into focus as a serious concern for me. The physical therapists told me it was not lost but I didn't believe them. I knew that I was having erections that I couldn't feel and this had caused me some distress. My most optimistic conclusion was that since I had no feeling in my penis I would not have any more sexual urges and perhaps would not miss anything; I was resigned to the idea that the orgasm I'd had the night before my accident was the last I would ever have.

Lying in bed one night shortly after my return home, I began to fantasize, which resulted in my starting to get the feeling I was about to go to the bathroom. I turned on the light so I could grab an underpad - and what I saw was my erect penis ejaculating! I felt excited and glad that maybe my sexuality was coming back. When I was able to get around quite well on my wheelchair, I brought home a gay video; again I got that feeling of having to pee - but this time I was not surprised to find that I was in fact coming.

My first post-accident sexual encounter was with a guy who lived in an apartment down the hall. I felt I had to explain a lot of things about being in a chair and having nerve damage, and was anxious that he might be bothered by it; in fact, he seemed rather interested, which surprised me. With his gentle stroking we mapped the areas of sensitivity on my body - and in due course I had that vague feeling which I now recognized, and looked out for, as orgasm. My sexuality and

desirability were returning somewhat; I felt less incomplete and I became more able to notice people's interest in me.



It's not that I don't feel I'm being cheated: I feel my orgasm so faintly; and I miss my penis and I'm jealous that the man I'm with can feel something I can't. But there's a definite release of tension afterwards. And I have not lost my sexuality! I have learned a lot: that sexuality does not depend on particular parts of the body working in a particular way; and that people who are not disabled are interested in working with how my body works - and excited by it. A curious thing I have noticed is that a different partner's touch will locate and arouse a different area of sensitivity on my body - in this way I can say that my sexual experience is now more personal, each connection more individual than before my accident.

Brian Tsai is spinal cord injured, and a subscriber to A-T. He lives in San Francisco.

A-T welcomes the articles and opinions of subscribers on matters of interest to the membership relating to disability and sexuality; we will help with editing your material.

It was good to find out that A-T didn't just disappear.
- SC, Laguna Hills, CA

The concept sounds like a great one, not to mention the necessity of gay disabled people reaching out to the community...I want once more to thank you both for starting a much needed communication link.
- KC, San Diego, CA

I'm truly glad to learn of this newsletter.
- CF, Philadelphia, PA

I wish you guys well and look forward to your inaugural issue in October.
- JH, Hollywood, FL

I was surprised, interested, delighted and a bit ambivalent about A-T risen anew from the ashes...But "hope springs eternal" and I'm willing to try again.
- FH, Anchorage, AK

The old A-T was not real good at sharing information about...other peoples stories and experiences, which I think would add a lot and encourage people to participate and belong. I have had a lifelong attraction for disabled men...[and have not] had much opportunity to share this with others...I think it's terrific that you guys are giving us the opportunity and forum to do this.
- BM, New York, NY

Wow! A-T back from the dead!! Wonderful!!!
- RR, Minneapolis, MN

LETTERS

Steven...good job. Thanks for getting A-T back on track.
- TS, Harrisburg, PA

I am excited about your efforts to get A-T going again. I had always regretted not joining the original group and have searched the various gay publications in recent years for signs of its revival.
- RR, San Diego, CA

Your low income program is a nice idea...If you will make up an ad copy when you have a chance and send it to me I will place it in our NCSC gay news.
- RS, Tryon, NC

I was so glad to learn that Able-Together is going to resume publication and especially in a way that I could afford to join. I had to drop out because of the costs.
- ST, Jackson, MS

I will certainly do my best to spread the word here in Britain about the new A-T.
- PW, Bournemouth, UK

I am declining for the following reasons: as for being both gay and disabled, we are a sexual minority within the gay community...at odds with both gay and straight society. It isn't "cool" for the able-bodied gays to have us cluttering up their scene...So what are we left with?...A demeaning, coded newsletter...we are objects of pity and scorn. No newsletter can change it.
- JP, San Diego, CA

Here are some quotes from your letters which made us feel good and one that made us feel sad.

Thank you!

SERVICES

!!ABLE-TOGETHER ON TAPE FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED!!

If you or a friend would like to receive A-T on an audio tape:

- place a blank cassette tape in a cassette container;
- write your name & address on a return label;
- in the place of a postage stamp, write: "Free matter for the blind and disabled"
- mail to:

KEVIN COLLIN,
THE CENTER, DISABLED SERVICES,
POB 3357, SAN DIEGO, CA
92163-6357

TEACHING WHOLISTIC HEALTH SCIENCES AND SPIRITUALITY

David Glen is the publisher of two spiritually-oriented publications: **Universal Truth** and **Heaven's Little Angels** - a children's magazine. David believes that the way to health, healing and wholeness is through expanding understanding and awareness in the fields of wholistic healing arts, vibrational sciences and spirituality. David wishes to share his knowledge in these fields with interested A-T subscribers and he hopes that other A-T subscribers will want to share their areas of knowledge in similar fashion, saying:

> *"It would be my desire to see Able-Together become more than just a meet-each-other directory, but rather a sincere newsletter with information and news of a truly universal scope. And, TOGETHER, we will be ABLE to expand understanding, friendship and love toward one another."*

If you would like to contact David you may write to him at:

ABLE-TOGETHER, POB 460053,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94146

A GUIDE TO THE USE OF CONTACT AD LISTINGS

We believe the best kind of ad is the one that gives the reader the clearest picture of who you are. We therefore encourage ad length and an accurate statement of personal statistics such as age and weight. You should bear in mind that our subscribers are likely to want to know whether you are disabled or abled, so please include this information. Try to be as detailed as you can about yourself and your way of being and presentation in the world, as it greatly helps both you and potential respondents if they can gain a reasonable picture of you from the ad. ***We encourage changes and updates to ads!***

Sexually explicit or fetishistic material is edited out of personal contact ads submitted to ABLE-TOGETHER. Many of our subscribers are offended by such material. In addition, our circulation includes, for example, CIL's where a copy may be kept for reference, and this additional source of potential new members is important. *If you are dissatisfied with this policy we will cancel your subscription.*

ABLE-TOGETHER does not profit from forwarding replies to coded contact ads but we do ask that you send us full reimbursement for our postage costs in forwarding your reply to the advertiser:

- For US responses to US advertisers, this will be a 29¢ stamp, *but please note that heavier items cost more to send. When in doubt, please check at the post office.*
- For overseas responders who do not have US stamps, please send a $1 bill. This will cover *three* replies.
- For responses from the US and overseas to an overseas coded advertiser, please send

A GUIDE (continued)

the overseas forwarding fee of $1. *But please send no more than a one-page letter with one photo - otherwise it may cost us more than $1 to forward your reply!*

Remittance of forwarding costs may be made to ABLE-TOGETHER in valid US postage stamps, currency, checks or by money order or international reply coupon. ABLE-TOGETHER does not accept responsibility for materials sent to us to be forwarded and not received. We reserve the right to destroy materials not accompanied by adequate reimbursement for forwarding costs.

Personal contacts initiated through ABLE-TOGETHER contact ad listings are done so entirely at the risk and on the responsibility of the persons concerned. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE DOING WHAT YOU WANT TO BE DOING; AND DOING IT WITH THE PERSON YOU WANT TO BE DOING IT WITH. IF YOU DECIDE TO BE SEXUAL WITH SOMEONE YOU ARE VERY STRONGLY URGED— FIRST***TO CALL YOUR LOCAL AIDS/STD HOTLINE FOR INFORMATION AND ADVICE.***

<u>HOW TO REPLY TO A CODED AD</u>

Put your letter in an envelope , seal it, and put the A-T code # of the advertiser to whom you are replying in the top right corner of the envelope. Put this envelope, together with the correct reimbursement for forwarding costs (see above) in another envelope. Seal and address the second envelope to A-T and mail! You may respond to as many coded ads as you wish and put all the numbered envelopes in one larger envelope to mail to us.

CONTACT ADS

NATIONAL AK-CA

SEEKING AN AMPUTEE WHO LIKES OLDER MEN. I'm 72, 5'7", 140 #. Some say that I'm loving, sexy, gentle and mature. I think of myself as healthy, independent, and totally out as a gay man. No macho athlete, but I swim, hike and bike a bit. Retired, my interests now lie in volunteering, classical music, science and agnostic religion. I am relationship oriented and have deep roots in Alaska, and would love to meet someone here or who might want to relocate in this great place. But I'm equally happy to travel to meet you. I hope you might think I'm an interesting person, perhaps even a 'nice catch', and I'd love to hear from you! *Fred Hillman, 1685 Stanton Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508-5034.*

SAN DIEGO AREA. Shy GWM, post-polio with leg brace, younger looking 40's, likes nude fun and SM/BD games indoors and out. Not into the bar scene - enjoy quiet evenings at home, dinner out, travel, etc. Interested in meeting guys able or disabled for friendship, pen pals, safe sex, etc. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 137.*

GAY NAVY VETERAN. Disabled gay Navy veteran wishes to correspond with penpals from all over the world - you won't be disappointed! Write today! *Robert C. Healy, 1086 Post Street # 309, San Francisco, CA 94109, telephone: (415) 921 8950.*

MY NAME IS MICHAEL. I am 41, have black hair and brown eyes, and weigh 195 pounds. My right leg is amputated above the knee. I'm interested in making new friends and am definitely open to the possiblity of romance. I enjoy going out with friends for dinner and a movie, play or concert. I also enjoy staying in for more intimate entertainment. I love listening to music, especially classical, latino, and the popular music of the 1930's. I like watching films, especially comedies and campy "B" movies. Another favorite pastime of mine is reading, especially fiction and self-help psychology. I also like to travel. If any of this sounds interesting, please give me a call at ph (213) 221 6472 or write to the A-T Box. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 330.*

CONTACT ADS

NATIONAL CA

LOOKING FOR SOME GOOD FRIENDS. I am 46, 5'9", 170 lbs, disabled, and very interested in corresponding with anyone disabled or abled, - age, weight, disability, looks, not important. I am looking not for a relationship, but for buddies for interactive exchange of photos, videos, letters, *whatever.* I have a video camera. *Ray, POB 81613, San Diego, CA 92138.*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. Professional GWM, 6'1", gym toned 160 lbs, very young looking 53, light brown hair, short beard, able-bodied, HIV-, who loves home, friends, outdoor activities, and travel. A past relationship with a disabled man was wonderful and I would like to find another. I live near San Francisco but would like to correspond also with people in other areas. All replies answered. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 310.*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. 37 year old paraplegic, professional, love to travel, meet men, and enjoy pleasing you orally! Seeking able bodied man between ages 25-37 to see if we can connect for fun and a unique experience! *Steven Crawford, POB 4515, Laguna Beach, CA 92652, telephone: (714) 497 6141.*

CALIFORNIA. Asian, 35, L2 paraparesic for 18 months; I walk with a cane, but have limited feeling below my waist. I try to live life by the philosophy that every day is a gift because it's something you didn't have the day before. Looking for friendship of all sorts. Brian, ph. (415) 673 3611. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 611.*

CALIFORNIA. During the past few months I have heard about the work of Shelley Taylor down at UCLA. Her research apparently deals with the positive aspects of denial as a coping strategy for dealing with stress. I'd like to know if anyone has heard about her work. I understand she has been dealing with groups of HIV+ men in the LA area. I am told she feels that in addition to other coping skills such as confrontation, rumination, suppression and aggression, a new coping skill that she calls the "illusory coping skill" has been identified in

the HIV+ community: it is a sort of *the glass is always half full* philosophy of life, I think, but I would like to know more about it without running up my long distance telephone bill. Thanks. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 612.*

CALIFORNIA. GLM, 35 years old, non-smoker, wheelchair -user, loves cinema, R & B, jazz, dining out with a good glass of wine; seeks someone with compatible interests. Jose, ph (415) 864 4084, or write to A-T Box. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 392.*

LOVER OF DIFFERENCE. Abled BiWJM, fit fabulous forty-four, bald very hairy muscular 160 # gym-goer, warm, caring, interested son of the Universe, biopsychospiritual orientation, graduate student presently based in San Francisco, Ca. I am pulled to you by our differences in age or physical ability, and by extremes in your physical presentation (like very long or very short hair); I delight in apparent contrasts (like the upper-body strength of a man walking on crutches), and I delight in letting you know the impact you have on me and in hearing the impact I have on you. If you are interested to feel with me the pull generated by our surface differences or contrasts, or with me to explore how non-different we are underneath, or if anything I say here intrigues or interests you, then please write! Phone number greatly appreciated. *Peter. Replies with correct postage please to A-T #252.*

CALIFORNIA. I am 56 years old, 225 #, 5'8", very hirsute, and versatile. Use an electric scooter to get around, suffer from MS; left leg paralyzed but rest of body is in fine working order. Ex HS teacher and originally from NY. Caring, warm, looking for permanent relationship. *Adolf Sand, 3756 Cardiff Avenue # 104, Los Angeles, CA 90034-4090.*

CALIFORNIA. GWM in South Orange County looking to meet same. I am looking to make new friends and maybe even meet "Mr. Right". You can write me at *POB 701, Lake Forest, CA 92630-0701,* or call me at *(714) 458 8965* before 10pm. Hope to hear from you soon. *Paul.*

CALIFORNIA. Attractive bi white guy, 48, 6', 180 #, college grad, professional, desires friend for safe, discreet mutual massage and exploration. I have nerve damage affecting my feet and use a 3-wheel scooter. I am healthy, active, and mobile. Please be healthy, cut, and a non-smoker. *Richard, POB 64844, Los Angeles, CA 90064.*

CALIFORNIA. GWM, 58, 5'11", brn/hzl, 200 #, ambulatory with structural limitations. I'm into ham radio, camping, fishing, outdoors. I have a home but spend a lot of time on the coast in the travel trailer. Seeking a compatible gay/bi man who understands the hardships of being disabled, yet in that disability has discovered the true meaning of life, and wants to share the discovery. ABLE-TOGETHER says it all! I have a loving, caring nature, and can give all to the one I love. *Bud H., POB 382, Yolo, CA 95697.*

SEEKS FRIENDSHIP WITH LOVE. My name is David. I am a 28 yr old college boy, 5'10", strong and in good shape. Dark-brown hair and, am told, very good looking. I love people and desire friendships, pen-pals and possible relationship. I am a warm, caring, outgoing person who likes humor, fun-loving, happy-go-lucky type people. I love children, nature and animals. I teach the Healing Arts and Spirituality. I do massage. I live near Palm Springs, Ca, and enjoy visitors. Male or female, any color, nationality and any age are welcomed to reply. *David Glen, POB 1274, Joshua Tree, CA 92252.*

CALIFORNIA. Hi, I'm a physically challenged gay white male. I'm looking for correspondence, and a possible future meeting, with people that are open minded and intelligent enough to realize that, even though I'm unable to walk, I do have the heart and physical ability to love. I would like to correspond with, and possibly meet, other physically challenged individuals. I would also like to hear from goodlooking, able-bodied men who are open minded enough to think that the challenged have more to offer than our wisdom. I have a great many interests, some of which include traveling, writing, reading, and bbs'ing. My favorite types of

music are country and easy listening, although I also love a good classical piano concerto. Other interests include the performing arts and admiring nature. I enjoy going for a nice stroll in my chair with someone special. Even though I currently live in Southern California, I usually travel up to Northern California once a month and stay there for about a week. I have very youthful looks, a great personality, a high intelligence, and a heart that can easily get warmer than 98.6. (No that doesn't mean I get a lot of heartburn!) I look very fragile, but I think that the fact that I'm 42 and I've lived on my own for the last 20 years should be a sign that I'm not that delicate. Especially since I've been dependent on others to provide for my care. I'm sexually ready and able, but I have enough self-respect to sleep only with someone that I like. (When I was younger I felt like I had better take the sex while I had the chance.) Well, that's about it for now. I hope that I'll hear from some of you all. *Terry L. Hand, 1730 N. Towne Ave., #12, Claremont, CA 91711-3234.*

ORANGE COUNTY, CA. Hi, I'm 41, 5'7", 190# Bi male. I enjoy Skin & Scuba Diving, Cycling, Tennis, Photography and Astronomy among other activities. I have a slight physical inconvenience from having contracted Polio in my left leg and hip as a child, but it hasn't slowed me down much. I would like to meet other Bi males, Gays or Bi couples, who are physically able or inconvenienced. It is my hope to meet others who share some of the activities noted - and who would also enjoy (with respect to our feelings and desires) the gentle warmth that comes to those who experience the joy, pleasures and eroticism of giving as well as receiving pleasure to fulfillment. Please enclose a photo, and preferably your phone number. Hopefully a friend, Sal. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #520.*

CALIFORNIA. Young senior, essentially able 150#, humorous, bright, reasonably independent, loving and insightful, slim and goodlooking medium-sized GWM in Southern California area, seeks similar 30-40ish largely able, who is pleasant, aware, considerate, with interest in the world, self and others. N/s, n/d, HIV- and

conventional, please. *Glen A. Bennett, POB 2047, Beverly Hills, CA 90213.*

CALIFORNIA. YO: An early-retired professional, non-mainstream, dominant, Mediterranean, of intellectual and sentimental depth, searching internationally for mature companion of substance. I aspire to a synergistic and practical (not idealistic) union based on playfulness, direct communication, comprehension, appreciation, and romantic or platonic love. I've been called witty, earthy, compassionate, artistic, bohemian, outspoken, and a perennial quester of truth and quality. TU: Perhaps disabled, elderly, unaffectedly effeminate, chronically ill, physically unfit, a curmudgeon, or in any other way "unmarketable". SI: Non-conformity, liberalness, awareness, non-materialism, high-mindedness, robust fun, authenticity, turbulent sex, refinement, softness/sensitivity, East Coasters, Europeans, Cubans, and Japanese. NO: Euphemisms, enneagram number threes, conspicuous political correctness, hypermasculinity, emotional shallowness, mindlessness, addictions to busyness, tobacco, or perfume. INTERESES: Overnight motor trips, dry climates, substantial relationships, disclosing conversation, female friends, orchids, massage, yesteryear's theater and films, practical psychology (e.g. the enneagram), fine eateries, classic jazz, inner growth, correspondence via cassette tape, erotica, elders, new experiences, literary modern classics, the blues, estate sales, teratology, animals (except house cats), word games, sallying. CAUSAS: Advocacy for prisoners, PWAs, and consumers, Environmental detox. LIMITACIONES: Due to sleep apnea, multiple chemical sensitivities, and intractable upper-back pain, I socialize in the slow lane (occasionally in the S. Francisco Bay Area). *R. F. G., POB 351, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0351. Evenings: (408) 423 1155.*

CALIFORNIA. Gay blind man with an eye for beauty seeks friend for fun and honest relationship. Will take him sight unseen. Sensitive and fun please reply, San Diego area. *Kevin Collin, POB 3357, San Diego, CA 92163-3357.*

CALIFORNIA. Hi! I'm JJ, a GWM, 45, 5'7", 140lbs, HIV negative, with a neuromuscular disorder. Use cane much of the time, but work out in the gym and at home. Enjoy music from classical to rock, good food and wine, X-rated videos, safe sex. Would love to meet others for friendship and companionship. Possible LTR if you're GWM, 40-55, nonfat, HIV negative. Hairy a plus. Penpals welcomed. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T #521.*

COLORADO. GWM 50, abled, interested in sports for all abilities; I relate well to and would enjoy correspondence with physically disabled men. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 498.*

COLORADO. Mature, masculine, teddy bear type guy with non physically appearing disability and interests in boots, leather, seeks to meet same, 18-60, disabled or not, with similar interests. Lifelong interest in guys wearing braces. Intelligent, affectionate, caring, supportive. I am relationship oriented and can travel. Your photo appreciated, mine available. Write to: *Occupant, POB 38471, Colorado Springs, CO 80937.*

FLORIDA. GWM, 5'10", 190# (football player type body), 55, blue eyes, brown/grey hair, moustache, hairy, nice looking, masculine, very much in shape, together, happy-go-lucky, post-polio syndrome, wheelchair most of the time, Irish-Scotch-American Indian, quiet with a great sense of humor, non smoker, light drinker, no drugs. Interests: swimming, music (classical, opera, Broadway, jazz), cooking, gardening, beach. Looking forward to your letters, men. *John W. Harris, 5515 Madison Street, Hollywood Hills, Fl. 33021.*

ALOHA FROM HAWAI'I! I am a 33 year old GWM on Maui who is particularly attracted to men who are amputees, especially AK and hip amputations. I am 6'1" and weigh about 190#. I have dirty blond hair and mustache. I enjoy outdoor activities, especially the beach, swimming, snorkeling, etc. I am especially turned on by Asian, Filipino, Polynesian, and Latino men, the less body hair and the more foreskin the better. Would like

CONTACT ADS

NATIONAL HI - MN

to correspond with any amputee or other guys who share any of the same interests as I. Take a chance and write, you never know where it might lead. Aloha. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 447.*

ILLINOIS. GWM, abled, is attracted to and interested in meeting guys who wear leg braces, also guys wearing teeth braces; would also like to hear from guys with similar interests. *Terry Troutman, POB 1107, Arlington Heights, IL 60006.*

ILLINOIS. Hi! My name is Kurt; I'm 35 years old, have blond hair, blue eyes, T-12 spinal cord injury since June 1991; I'm independent, successful and good looking. Looking for friends and possibly more with the right person - able bodied or disabled. Please send photo for a quick reply. (Prefer 18-35.) *Kurt S. 2301 Broadway, Quincy, IL 62301.*

IOWA. Disabled single white male, 45 years old writer, wishes sincere, "professional" white male to correspond with and meet. Please write if you are interested in permanent monogamous relationship. Your sincerity and honesty are much more important to me than your physical statistics. *Bruce J. Ness, 127 Westgate Drive #22, Forest City, IA 50436.*

MARYLAND. GWM, 35, paraplegic, 5'11", 140lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes. Very good upper body strength. My interests include music, movies, literature, sports, and having good times. I would like to correspond with GWM paraplegic, 18 to 45 years old. Interested in getting together for friendship with the possibility of a sexual and emotional relationship. I would prefer to hear only from paraplegic men but am interested in hearing from other gay disabled men too. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 470.*

SOUTH WEST MINNESOTA. 32 years old, looking for friendship, someone to be the buddy I never had, to share what life has to offer. I enjoy the outdoors, walking, sunsets and sunrises, spending time at the lake, gardening, flowers and plants. Non-smoker and no

drugs. Penpals welcomed, and all replies answered. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 589.*

MINNESOTA. I am a GWM who is disabled from a car accident. I walk with a cane, and use a wheelchair at times. I am a redhead, with a beard, and a light complexion. I am 34. I like to read and watch movies (especially science fiction and comedies), sip gourmet coffee, and visit. I am seeking a special friend, disabled or ablebodied. A person pertson. Please write, all are answered. *Bob Barr, 180 Wayzata Street # 507, Saint Paul, MN 55117.*

MINNESOTA. I have a soft spot in my heart for SE Asian and/or Russian males who are 18-30, little to no body hair, chemically/drug and disease free. I am abled, rather shy and very quiet. I enjoy watching sports such as baseball, basketball, wrestling, swimming, and gymnastics. Any/all serious replies will be answered. A photo will be a plus. Thanx! *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 303.*

MISSISSIPPI. GWM, 58, 5'11", 210#, gr/br hair and beard, HIV-, use crutches or cane, seeking GWM ,35+ for friendship/relationship. Hairy body, beard and/or stache a plus. I am a smoker, fr a/p, gr p. *Sam Tolar, 1521 W. Highland Drive # H-4, Jackson, MS 39204-2117.*

NEW JERSEY. Goodlooking masculine GBM, 30's, 6'3", 200lbs, b/k amp who is shy and passionate, likes movies, music, theater and sports, seeking to establish network of friends (20-50) with thirst for fun; any race welcome, please write with photo. *R. K. Williams, 539 Diamond Springs Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-3606.*

COVERS ALL EASTERN STATES! GWM, super senior mid 60's, 6'2", 220 #, long time A-T subscriber, semi retired, travels eastern seabord and New England. Attracted to leg amputees - your loss no handicap to understanding and possible friendship and/or relationship. Would also like to hear from those with a similar attraction. Drop me a line, I'll take it from there! *Steve Miller, POB 341, Union City, NJ 07087.*

CONTACT ADS

NATIONAL NJ - NY

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY. Partially disabled, ambulatory, heavy GWM looking for lover. Me: - 46, 6', 250 lbs, brown eyes, brown hair, beard, HIV -. Like to laugh, cuddle and snuggle. Like books, bookstores, classical music, restaurants, movies. You: - GWM 35-50, slim to muscular, with similar likes. Letter and photo get mine. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 613.*

I LOVE TO SHARE NEW YORK WITH VISITORS. 46 yo WM, physician able-bodied, loss of vision in left eye since car accident. Interested in friendship and/or...My first lover was an amputee and I would be interested to connect with someone with a similar disability. Enjoy opera, theater, travel, singing with NYC Gay Men's Chorus. Give a call if you're in the Big Apple! *Michael B. Gehl, 95 Horatio Street # 706, New York, NY 10014, telephone: (212) 255 4140.*

YOUR PHOTO GETS MINE. Goodlooking, well-built, GWM, 45, 5'8", 150 lbs, green eyes, salt and pepper crew cut, into weight-lifting, motorcycles, leather, videos, photos and my very good imagination! Am attracted to men with one or more amptutations and would love to hear from one such, also from someone else with similar interests. Looking for correspondence and maybe more. Any takers? *Alan Johnson, 487 East Main Street # 158, Mount Kisco, NY 10549-0110.*

NEW YORK. GWM, 41, 5'11", 155 lbs, good youthful muscular looks, swimmer's body, brown hair, hazel eyes, multilingual, abled; interested in travel, reading, music from opera to house, and cooking; seeking disabled friend, 25-45, especially if you are Arab, Indian or Latino. *Paul S. Rankin, 50 Bank Street, New York, NY 10014.*

SUPERSTAR WANTED for starring role in my life. I'm 37, 6'2", 180#, goodlooking GWM, not disabled, looking for disabled friends for fun, romance and more. I work in the arts and travel frequently. Looking for guys ages 20-50, perhaps post-polio with braces, wheelchair, crutches, but will answer all. *Peter Sanders, 366 West 11th Street, New York, NY 10014.*

NEW YORK. Able bodied GWM searching for disabled and abled contacts for good conversation (by phone or letter), possible meeting and sharing mutual feelings. I am 40 years old, 5'7", dark hair, blue eyes, a professional, very preppy in appearance and dress. I am hearing impaired and wear hearing aids - but they only help to make communication better! *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 264.*

NEW YORK. GWM, 37, looks much younger, 5'6", 152#, br/br, college grad, handsome, deaf (ASL), quadriplegic - caused by diving accident; look like paraplegic; healthy, ex-ski instructor/racer. Wheelchair racquetball, weightlifting, camping, bowling, travel, pedal cycling, etc., - very active person outdoors. Would like to meet disabled or non-disabled under 45 (no fems or overweights). Please write with photo. *Bill Searles, Green Mansions Rd., Chestertown, NY 12817.*

NEW YORK. I'm looking for a male friend, in all areas, with a sense of humor, who can also be serious. Ages 30-45. In uniform, with a beard, or very hairy is a plus, but look forward to hearing from you all - send a picture if you can. *Jay Costello, 146A Jackman Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.*

ITALIAN-AMERICAN! Hi, I'm an Italian-American disabled male with big loving heart and squeezable body, and I am looking for an able-bodied, good-built Italian-American male. I am looking for friendship first, sharing love and life. I am kind, considerate, and full of love to give to *caro ragazzo mio.* Is it you? *Pasquale J. Monaco, 180 Bethel Loop, # 9E, Brooklyn, NY 11239, telephone # (718) 942 0701.*

NEW YORK. I am a non-disabled GWM 6 ft. 175 lbs, in-shape, HIV-, 57, professional, affectionate, and, like everyone, I am looking for that "Special Person"! Personality and character along with a purpose in life, someone who doesn't let his handicap get him down, are important traits to me. I am particularly attracted to "Men of Color". Your picture gets mine, but not necessary. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 374.*

NEW YORK. WM, 49, 5'8", 175 lbs, brown hair and eyes, clean-shaven, smooth body, very muscular bubble butt, affectionate, non-smoker, HIV negative, polio survivor, use cane for stairs only, able-bodied in appearance, seek friendship, hot times, pen-pals. Prefer local men but am open to travel. Photo/phone # helpful, and please be a non-smoker. Thank you! *Box 8211, Jackson Heights, Queens, NY 11372.*

DO YOU HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE? I'm Joe, 47 year old GWM, 5'10", 175 lbs, light brown hair with gray trim and balding, hazel eyes, moustache, and not bad looking. I had a stroke in 1981, have a very slight limp, erection unpredicatabilities, doing fine otherwise. I have a great deal of love to give to the right person, and it's a great sensation for me to please another. You would be younger, masculine, handsome, hopefully but not necessarily hairy, endowed, and willing to share expenses. I'm on SSI, have a dog, an all white retriever named BEAR, have my BS, am a qualified chef, am very loving, honest, trustworthy, loyal, caring and most affectionate. I would willingly do the laundry, cooking and cleaning. I don't smoke, drink, or have any involvement with drugs. I am very clean, HIV negative, and hopefully you are also. I don't mind a social drinker, but I do mind drugs, alcoholics. Smoke bothers me, but I can adjust. If you're interested in the pleasures I can supply, which would in turn greatly satisfy me, please respond with your photo, birthdate, stats, and date you could be here the soonest. Where would you want to move to so we could both get a fresh start? *Joe Krulisky, 1969 Falls Street # 1, Niagara Falls, NY 14303-1713.*

WANTED: LIFEMATE/BEST FRIEND. Italian, 40, 5'10", 190 lbs, caring, sincere, passionate, Christian, honest, secure, broad interests in and out of bed, outgoing, fun, seeks you: butch boy 28-44, masculine, perhaps in a chair or hearing impaired (I know sign language), serious, relationship-oriented, sincere, honest, secure, a little shy, Christian, enjoy life, caring, sense of humor, drug-free, HIV-. I live in Finger Lakes area of New York State. Call Bill at (607) 962 4354 6pm-9pm weekdays or, *replies with correct postage please to A-T # 428.*

NEW YORK. GWM, 35, 6', br/br, sometimes beard, heavyset, good looking, masculine, living in NY. Looking to meet or correspond with men who have a physical disability: paraplegics, quads, polio or other disability. (Endowment not an issue and erection capability not necessary.) Other physical attributes are unimportant if someone is willing. I am understanding and patient and can match my pace to yours. Having been heavy my whole life, I understand how inside everyone, regardless of the packaging, there is a special person who is very attractive. I am only looking for a physical relationaship, to share good times and have fun with each other, always respecting limitations and desires. I am great with my hands and can be creative and versatile in both interests and activities, given a willing partner with particular interests or needs. I can be a very generous person in the right circumstances. Also, I would love to meet, talk to and/or correspond with others who share my interests, especially, but certainly not limited to, those whose focus is on legs and bare feet. I'm great with fantasies, having had a lot of practice, and would love to share some of mine if you share some of yours. Would love to find sources for videos, books, photos, etc. I will answer all who write, please send phone and photo if possible. If you're out there, and I know you are, please write. You'll never know if something wonderful can develop if you don't take the chance. *Bert Michaels, 954 Lexington Avenue #172, New York, NY 10021.*

NEW YORK. GWM, abled, 35, 185, 6', very handsome with Mediterranean good looks, brown hair and eyes, clean shaven, muscular, athletic and gym-fit; looking to meet all types of physically disabled men, especially attracted to amps, paras and post-polio guys. I'm HIV- and into very hot safe sex and mutual satisfaction. Write or call: *Alex Exarchos, 135 West 79th Street, New York, NY 10024, ph (212) 595 5755.*

I LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA. Able bodied 58, 6'1", 220 lbs, gray hair, hazel eyes, hairy chest; I'm attracted to handicapped men; I'm retired and travel a great deal, and would love to hear

from you wherever you are. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 508.*

OHIO. SWM, 40 years old, 140 lbs, HIV-, non-smoker and non-drug-user, drink very little, lost my right arm at the shoulder due to a motorcycle wreck. I am a very sincere, honest and responsible person. I would like to find the same qualities in a man who would like either to have a one to one relationship with me or just to be a good friend so that we could be honest with and have a good time with each other. *Dana K. Hale, 800 Everhard Road SW # 707, North Canton, OH 44709.*

PORTLAND, OREGON AREA. GWM, mid 30's, 5'10", 165 lbs, lt brown hair, blue eyes, able bodied. Would like to meet or correspond with disabled guys. I have a special fondness for amputees, but would like to hear from all, also from abled guys who share my interests. *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 472.*

PENNSYLVANIA. GWM, 39, sincere, warm, caring, intelligent, humorous, shy Leo, handsome (blush!), dark hair, beard, blue eyes, hairy back-butt-legs, HIV-, person with a disability, power wheelchair user, seeks friendship for mutual support, computer BBS-ers (?), videos, music, hugs, safe times. No drugs, smoke, pain. *CWF, 3901 Market Street # 1913, Philadelphia, PA 19104.*

PENNSYLVANIA. GWM, 6'4", T-7 para, brown hair, blue eyes, 180 lbs, 41 yrs, braces, big balls, penile implant. Like long, hard, safe, sane, horny encounters; enjoy travel, movies, mountains, sweaty nights and sticky mornings. Your letter, photo get mine. Stay well! *Replies with correct postage please to A-T # 529.*

PENNSYLVANIA. 22 year old GWM, brown hair and eyes, thin. I have mildly severe CP which affects my ability to walk and talk, however I can be understood on the phone. I am ambulatory but use a chair for long distances. I am a college student at Temple University majoring in business. My interests include: computers, reading, writing, world affairs and disability related issues. I am a open, sincere, non-judgmental. I enjoy get-

ting to know other people. I am a good listener. I am looking to get to know people of any age or who have any disability for friendship and possibly more. I hope to hear from you soon. *Brian, 352 Valley Brook Rd., Apt. A-6, Ambler, PA 19002. (215) 540-0411*

VIRGINIA. GWM, professional, 40, wishes to meet and/or correspond with amputees and other physically challenged people. *Michael Allen, POB 19435, Alexandria, VA 22320.*

VIRGINIA. Single GWM, forties (but look younger), black hair, dark brown eyes, moderately hairy, 5'1", around 135 lbs. I have CP and use a power chair for mobility. I work at Virginia Commonwealth University as an Office Services Specialist at the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center. I usually work four days a week and am off on Fridays, unless I'm away on a business trip. I enjoy going to the gay bars/clubs, dining out, dancing, going to movies and concerts, most types of music, and shopping. Cruising is my favorite pastime. I also like some sports, especially Ice Hockey and Volleyball. I like the beach, the mountains, nature, animals, and just life itself! Also I enjoy the nudist lifestyle when I'm home. I'm out there, you're out there, so why not let's get together and see what happens. If you are interested in getting together for an initial date, please call me! I am hot and horny! *John Christopher Barrett, 300 West Franklin Street, # 103-W, Richmond, VA 23220, telephone # (804) 643 1410 after 5pm or at weekends.*

WASHINGTON. Able-bodied GWM wants to correspond with GM with disability; am familiar with blindness, so tapes ok. *Replies with correct postage to A-T # 549.*

AUSTRALIA. GWM, 44, 6'2", 180#, able-bodied, professional guy working in strategic marketing and advertising, lived worked and studied in USA in 1976-77, loves Americans, attracted to physically challenged guys who love life and getting on with it. Get to USA about once a year, keen to correspond, talk to, meet guys who are amps, wheelies or wear braces. Don't let the tyranny of distance be another barrier! I love the

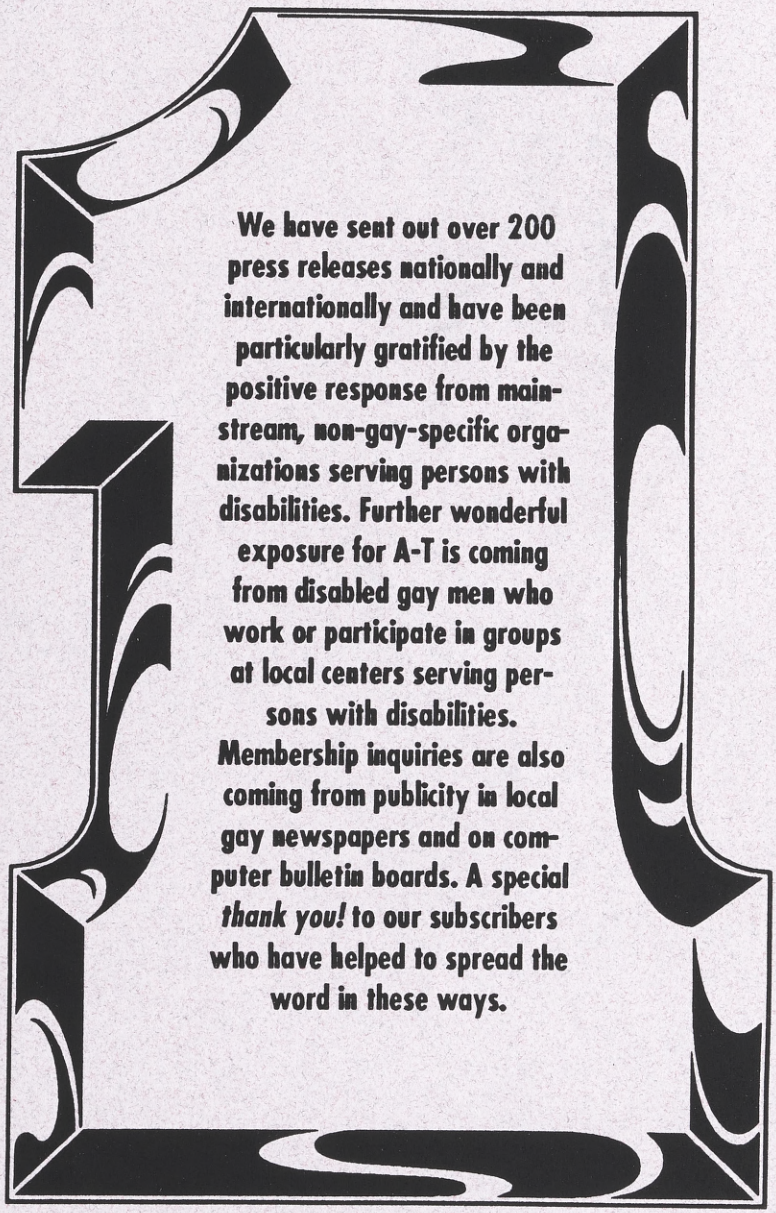
outdoors, horses, surf, wining, dining, film, theater, reading, and mutually rewarding, non role playing safe sex. Why not write and claim your own live Aussie mate? *Ross Hepburn, 65 Finch Street, East Malvern, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3145.*

AUSTRALIA. GM, 44, 191cm tall, weigh almost 100kg, shoulder length reddish hair and a beard. Work as HIV educator, but photography has been my passion since I was 16. Much involved in Sydney gay community, supporting people with HIV, and as photographer for Mr. Drummer competitions. Mostly Baroque music and instrumental jazz, no C & W. I usually cook provincial French. Live alone in a c1900 flat just 15 minutes from the center of Sydney (sorry 18 steps up and no wheelchair access). I smoke and occasionally drink. I lived with a lover who was blind for ten years and am sensitive to people who are different. I welcome visitors who are self-sufficient during the day, and can contribute to food costs. Looking forward to planning your visit with you! *David Edwards, POB 95, Westgate, 2048 Australia.*

ENGLAND. Hi there! I'm an English guy, 39, polio-disabled but fully mobile, seeking international friendships and exchanges. I'm tall, slim, straight-acting, masculine, caring, loving, affectionate; also unselfish, dependable and genuine. I'm into travel, music, socializing and much more. Am relaxed, easy-going and open-minded. I live on the South coast in a wheelchair-friendly bungalow (but can walk myself), am employed and drive a car. It's about 2 hours away from London. I welcome houseguests - so get writing! I also speak German and French and basic Spanish. Hope to hear from you real soon! Take care now. *Replies with $1 overseas forwarding fee please to A-T # 572.*

GREECE. Greek male, 38 years old, architect, 80kg, 190cm, able bodied, brown hair and eyes. I am attracted to, and identify with, amputees. Would like to get in touch with leg or arm amps, ages 25-55, from all over the world, as well as other guys with similar feelings. *George Kalyterakis, 32 Skoufa Street, Athens 10673, Greece.*

SUBSCRIBERS HELP SPREAD THE WORD LOCALLY.



We have sent out over 200 press releases nationally and internationally and have been particularly gratified by the positive response from mainstream, non-gay-specific organizations serving persons with disabilities. Further wonderful exposure for A-T is coming from disabled gay men who work or participate in groups at local centers serving persons with disabilities. Membership inquiries are also coming from publicity in local gay newspapers and on computer bulletin boards. A special *thank you!* to our subscribers who have helped to spread the word in these ways.

And this is only the start! With your continued help and encouragement we hope our publicity and advertising campaigns will generate a bumper January issue!

ABLE TOGETHER

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